



# NEWSLETTER



## July 2013 Rhode Island County Office

60 Quaker Lane Suite 49  
Warwick, RI 02886

### Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 am-4:30 pm

### Phone

401-828-3120 Option 2  
Or 1-800-551-5144

Farm Loan: Option 3

Fax: 401-821-0780

## County Committee

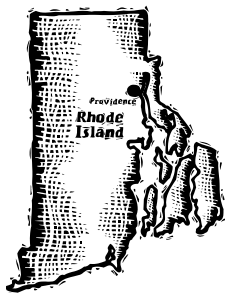
Doreen Pezza-Chairperson  
Gilbert W Rathbun Jr.-Vice  
Chairperson  
Victor Hoogendoorn-Member  
Joseph Silveira-Member  
Lauri Roberts-Member

## County Office Staff

Ingrid Fratantuono, CED  
Anne Belleville, PT  
Leila Naylor, PT  
Sheryl Michener, PT

## Farm Loan Staff

Roxanne Boisse, FLM  
Sandra Steere-Loring, FLA



## Acreage Reporting Deadline Quickly Approaching!

Just a reminder to contact the Rhode Island County office once you have completed your planting to file your yearly acreage report. The deadline to file your acreage report is July 15, 2013. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. Acreage reports are to be certified by July 15th for all Annual Crops.

## Filing for NAP Losses

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

## COC Nomination Deadline

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

The COC nomination period runs from June 17, 2013 through August 1, 2013. The nomination form is available at USDA Service Centers.

This year the following Counties are up for County Committee Election;

Bristol County

Kent County

Newport County

For more information contact the Rhode Island FSA County Office 401-828-3120 Option 2.

## Compliance Spot Checks

Compliance spot checks will be conducted on 2013 crops. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, and deficiency loans, for review, a nationwide selection of producers is employed. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in the Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program or other relevant program.

For more information about the spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact a local Farm Service Agency office for additional clarification.

## Microloan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available, should contact the local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official

## DCP/ACRE Deadlines

The sign-up period for DCP is coming to a close. Producers are encouraged to sign up for DCP before the Aug. 2, 2013, deadline. The sign-up period for ACRE ended June 3, 2013. The 2013 DCP program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013.

Contact the FSA county office for more information, or an appointment to enroll.